

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OVIP, SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:TRAVELLING PRESS REPORTAGE, MORNING, THURSDAY,
MAY 20, 1976

NO.4

WIRES:

1. REUTERS (NELSON): "SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS FEAR THAT
THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S TOUGH ANTI-SOVIET RHETORIC DURING
ELECTION CAMPAIGNING COULD ISOLATE THE U.S. FROM ITS ALLIES."

"... THE CURRENT PICTURE OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS IS NOT
BRIGHT:

"-- THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS (SALT) HAVE GROUND
TO A HALT AND VIRTUALLY NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON U.S.
AND SOVIET TROOP REDUCTIONS IN EUROPE.

"-- THE SOVIET UNION CONTINUES TO BOMBARD THE U.S. EMBASSY
IN MOSCOW WITH MICROWAVE EMISSIONS, ACCORDING TO THE STATE
DEPARTMENT.

"-- THE U.S. CONTINUES TO SOUND TOUGH ALARMS ABOUT A
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POSSIBLE U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM EUROPE IN THE EVENT OF

COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN KEY NATO GOVERNMENTS.

" U.S. OFFICIALS ARE STILL FURIOUS THAT THE SOVIET UNION COULD HAVE REFUSED WITH IMPUNITY TO HEED U.S. APPEALS TO STAY OUT OF ANGOLA.

"... MAIN PREOCCUPATION, ACCORDING TO SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS, WILL BE TO ASSURE THE ALLIANCE THAT THE UNITED STATES IS PURSUING A FIRM AND STEADY FOREIGN POLICY, UNSWAYED BY ELECTION-YEAR ATTACKS ON DETENTE."

2. REUTERS: LATER ITEM REPORTS BITSIOS TALK: "SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER CALLED TODAY FOR A RAPID SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS DISPUTE, SAYING THE CURRENT TERRITORIAL DIVISION OF THE ISLAND CANNOT BE PERMANENT. ..."

3. UPI (NO BYLINE): KISSINGER TOLD ALLIES THAT U.S. IS READY TO DISCUSS ANYTHING WITH RUSSIANS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH DETENTE, THOUGH AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT TO RESPOND TO TENSIONS CREATED BY SOVIETS.

AFTER CLOSED NATO SESSION DIPLOMATS REPORTED KISSINGER AS SAYING:

- INCREASED EAST-WEST INTERDEPENDENCE WOULD HELP PRESERVE PEACE;
- WEST MUST REMAIN ECONOMICALLY STRONGER;
- SOVIET BUILD-UP IS PART OF LONG-TERM PLAN, NOT SUDDEN;
- US OPPOSES SPHERES OF INFLUENCE;
- SOVIET ACTION IN ANGOLA VIOLATED DETENTE AND CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO BE REPEATED.

4. AP (FREED): CONCERN ABOUT CAMPAIGN-WEAKENED KISSINGER CLOUDED NATO OPENING.

SENIOR OFFICIAL ON PLANE ADMITTED FOLLOWING:

- ELECTION CAMPAIGN HAS SLOWED U.S. DIPLOMACY, ESPECIALLY TOWARD RUSSIANS;
 - EUROPEANS THINK CAMPAIGN MAY HAVE WEAKENED KISSINGER;
 - KISSINGER DOES NOT EXPECT MUCH PROGRESS ON CYPRUS BECAUSE BOTH SIDES HAVE UNACCEPTABLE PROPOSALS;
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-- KISSINGER WILL KEEP U.S. POLICY ON STEADY COURSE.

IN LATER STORY, FREED REPORTS READOUT ON KISSINGER'S REPORT TO NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS:

- THOUGH SOME SOVIET IDEOLOGISTS ARE URGING USE OF MILITARY POWER, SOVIETS ARE NOT, IN KISSINGER'S VIEW, BENT ON WORLD DOMINATION. GROWTH OF SOVIET POWER IS LONG-TERM, NOT SUDDEN AND ALLIANCE MUST LEARN TO LIVE WITH IT.

-- U.S. POLICY HAS CONTINUITY AND DOES NOT ONLY REPRESENT
POLICY OF THIS ADMINISTRATION.
-- WEST MUST STAY ECONOMICALLY STRONG.
-- THERE SHOULD BE NO MORE ANGOLAS.

GENSCHER CITES SOVIET NAVY EXPANSION AS EVIDENCE THEIR
ARRANGEMENTS EXCEED THEIR DEFENSE NEEDS.

NEWSPAPERS:

1. LATIMES: USED REUTERS WIRE STORY.
2. WALL STREET JOURNAL: NOTHING.
3. NYTIMES: RAN REUTERS ARRIVAL PIECE.
4. WPOST: RAN SUMMARY OF WIRE STORY.

NETWORKS/RADIO

1. DALLAS TOWNSEND & BERNARD KALB, CBS RADIO, WORLD NEWS
ROUNDUP:

TOWNSEND: THE ANNUAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF THE NORTH
ATLANTIC ALLIANCE OPENED IN NORWAY THIS MORNING WITH
SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER THE CENTRAL FIGURE.

KALB: NATO'S OPENING SESSION GOT UNDER WAY ON SCHEDULE IN
OSLO CITY HALL WITH A TOUCH OF MUSIC BY BEETHOVEN, AND
PREDICTABLE SPEECHES ABOUT FREEDOM IN THE WEST AND THE
THREAT FROM THE EAST. BUT WHILE THE OFFICIAL AGENDA DEALS
WITH THE OVERALL SUBJECT OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS, IT IS
THE UNOFFICIAL AGENDA, SO TO SPEAK, THAT SEEMS TO BE
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DOMINATING CORRIDOR TALK.

THE TWO SUBJECTS OF INTENSE CURIOSITY HERE -- THE UPCOMING
ELECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES IN NOVEMBER, AND MORE
IMMEDIATELY, NEXT MONTH'S ELECTIONS IN ITALY. SO FAR AS
THE U.S. ELECTIONS ARE CONCERNED, KISSINGER RECOGNIZES
HE WILL BE ASKED LOTS OF QUESTIONS, AT LEAST PRIVATELY,
ABOUT THE CONTROVERSY OVER U.S. FOREIGN POLICY BACK HOME.
HE WILL SEEK TO ASSURE ANY QUESTIONERS OF HIS VIEWS OF THE
CONSISTENCY AND CONSTANCY OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, NOT-
WITHSTANDING THE SCRAMBLE FOR BALLOTS.

THE ITALIAN ELECTIONS HAVE STIRRED A GOOD DEAL OF ANXIETY
SPECIFICALLY ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE BALLOTING IN
ITALY WILL CATAPULT THE COMMUNIST PARTY INTO A GOVERNMENTAL

ROLE IN ROME, AND WHAT THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH A DEVELOPMENT MAY MEAN FOR THE OVERALL WESTERN DEFENSE POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE RUSSIANS.

2. LEW WOOD, NBC-TV "TODAY SHOW": SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAS ARRIVED IN OSLO, NORWAY, TO ATTEND A

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NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING. WHILE FLYING ACROSS THE ATLANTIC, SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THAT 'THERE IS GROWING CONCERN AMONG EUROPEAN ALLIES ABOUT SOME OF PRESIDENT FORD'S CAMPAIGN RHETORIC.' THE OFFICIALS SAID THAT MR. FORD'S TOUGH ANTI-SOVIET LINE HAS LED SOME OF EUROPE'S LEADERS TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A RETURN TO A COLD WAR ATMOSPHERE. THE TWO DAYS OF NATO MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN SECRET.
(7:00 AM)

3. LEW WOOD, NBC-TV "TODAY SHOW": THE NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE HAS OPENED IN OSLO, AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, IN A REPORT FILED EN ROUTE TO NORWAY, QUOTES A 'SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL' AS SAYING THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN HAS WEAKENED SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S DIPLOMATIC POSTURE, ESPECIALLY TOWARD THE RUSSIANS. THE SOURCE WENT ON TO SAY EUROPEANS ESPECIALLY BELIEVE ATTACKS UPON MR. KISSINGER HAVE WEAKENED HIS ABILITY TO CARRY OUT POLICY. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT WHEN THIS DESIGNATION UNCLASSIFIED

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'SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL' HAS BEEN USED IN THE PAST, IT HAS BEEN USED AS AN EUPHEMISM FOR SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER HIMSELF. (8:00 AM) ...

WOOD: KISSINGER WAS VERY MUCH UNDER DISCUSSION YESTERDAY AS THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM COMMITTEE MET IN WASHINGTON. CATHERINE MACKIN WAS THERE, AND FILED THIS REPORT:

MACKIN: THE CRITICISM OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND DETENTE WITH THE SOVIETS WAS SO INTENSE AT TIMES THE HEARINGS SOUNDED LIKE A MEETING OF RONALD REAGAN'S CAMPAIGN ADVISORS.

GEORGE BALL: IT'S TIME TO RESTORE HARMONY AND EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CONGRESS AND THE EXECUTIVE IN THE CONDUCT OF FOREIGN POLICY. BUT THIS CAN OCCUR ONLY IF THE SECRETARY OF STATE STOPS MAKING BELLIGERENT THREATS AND GRANDIOSE PROMISES, WHICH HE EXPECTS CONGRESS TO SUPPORT OBEDIENTLY, SUPINELY AND WITHOUT QUESTION.

ANDREW BIEMILLER, AFL-CIO: WE DO NOT ASK BOTH PARTIES TO BAN THE WORD DETENTE FROM THE POLITICAL VOCABULARY. WE

ASK THEM TO BAN THE CURRENT POLICY OF APPEASEMENT THAT WORD NOW REPRESENTS.

EUGENE ROSTOV: ON THE OTHER HAND, WE ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE DECEIVED BY THE MYTH OF DETENTE IF WE REDUCE OUR MILITARY STRENGTH AND PERMIT OUR ALLIANCES TO ERODE, WE MAY WELL SUFFER IRREVERSIBLE DEFEATS WHICH COULD IMPERIL THE SAFETY OF DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA.

MACKIN: IN THE LAST THREE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS THE VIETNAM WAR HAD DIVIDED THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, BUT THIS YEAR THE DEMOCRATS ARE UNITED IN DISAGREEING WITH REPUBLICAN PARTY FOREIGN POLICY.

4. MARGARET OSMER, ABC-TV "GOOD MORNING AMERICA": IN OSLO, NORWAY, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER TELLS FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM NATO COUNTRIES TODAY THAT THE UNITED STATES IS PURSUING A CONSISTENT COURSE IN ITS FOREIGN POLICY. KISSINGER WANTS UNCLASSIFIED

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TO REASSURE NATO ALLIES THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT TRYING TO REVIVE THE COLD WAR WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

5. KEN FREED, WTOP RADIO: THE UNITED STATES IS ANXIOUS TO ENLIST WESTERN EUROPE IN THE EFFORT TO REBUILD THE DROUGHT-SHATTERED REGIONS OF BLACK AFRICA, AND TO PROMOTE AFRICA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH IN GENERAL. THE QUESTION OF AFRICA WILL BE A CENTRAL PART OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S DISCUSSIONS DURING TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS IN OSLO, NORWAY. KISSINGER, WHO RETURNED JUST OVER A WEEK AGO FROM AFRICA, WILL TELL THE MINISTERS NATO SHOULD NOT TAKE A DIRECT ROLE; INSTEAD, COUNTRIES SUCH AS FRANCE, GERMANY, BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES -- WHICH ALL HAVE SPECIAL INTERESTS IN AFRICA -- SHOULD SET A COMMON POLICY FOR AID AND DEVELOPMENT. KISSINGER WILL ALSO SEE A EUROPEAN CONSENSUS FOR AIDING BLACK NATIONALISTS TO ESTABLISH POLITICAL CONTROL IN WHITE-RULED RHODESIA.

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